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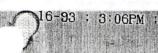
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†0 :	Name: Lowell Braxton Firm: Utan Division of Oil, Gas & Mining Fax Number: (801) 359 - 3940 Main or Confirming Number: (801) 538-5340 Preparer of this slip has confirmed that fax number given is correct. 4315/ Campa Ironso		
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April 16, 1993

SAN FRANCISCO

DIRECT DIAL NUMBER (303) 592-2265

VIA FACSIMILE

Mr. Lowell Braxton Associate Director for Mining Utah Division of Oil, Gas and Mining 355 West North Temple 3 Triad Center, Suite 350 Salt Lake City, Utah 84180

> Re: Drum Mine

Dear Mr. Braxton:

Since our letter to you of March 15, 1993, our client, Western States Minerals Corporation ("WSMC"), has become increasingly concerned that Asoma (Utah), Inc., the owner of the Drum Mine in Millard County, Utah, may have insufficient resources with which to bond its operations at the Drum Mine. Specifically, though WSMC will almost certainly be entitled to release of its bond, upon conclusion of the Colorado litigation now pending between WSMC and Asoma, WSMC may find some difficulty obtaining a release of its bond if Asoma is then unable to replace WSMC's bond with adequate surety of its own.

Under any possible outcome of the litigation pending between WSMC and Asoma in the Jefferson County, Colorado District Court, Asoma will be required to accept WSMC's assignment of all permits for the Drum Mine operation. Asoma now owns the Drum Mine property. The Colorado court will either order WSMC to assign all permits to Asoma but require WSMC to perform (or pay for) the permit reclamation obligations, or the court will require WSMC to assign all permits to Asoma and have Asoma perform (or pay for) the permit reclamation obligations.

WSMC understands DOGM's reluctance to release WSMC's bond on the Drum Mine until the question of the responsibility for reclamation is finally resolved by the Colorado court. However, WSMC is concerned that Asoma will be required by the court to accept transfer of all permits

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Mr. Lowell Braxton April 16, 1993 Page Two

on the Drum Mine, together with all reclamation responsibilities, and then be unable to bond that reclamation.

We have all seen in Colorado and elsewhere the problems created by insufficient reclamation bonding. WSMC respectfully requests that DOGM increase Asoma's reclamation bond at the Drum Mine to an amount sufficient to reclaim the entire mine while leaving WSMC's current bond in place until the conclusion of the litigation. At the conclusion of the litigation, WSMC's reclamation responsibilities will either be discharged by the Colorado court, in which case DOGM can release WSMC's bond and still have Asoma's bond in place, or WSMC will be required to undertake some reclamation, in which case DOGM will have a sufficient bond from both WSMC and Asoma to fully cover both parties' reclamation responsibilities. We hope you will seriously consider WSMC's concerns.

Please don't hesitate to call me at 303/592-2265 if you have any questions on this request. Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Stephen D. Alfers

SDA:smm

cc: Arden B. Morrow, WSMC Allan R. Cerny, WSMC Robert Engelke, Esq. Lee Foreman, Esq.